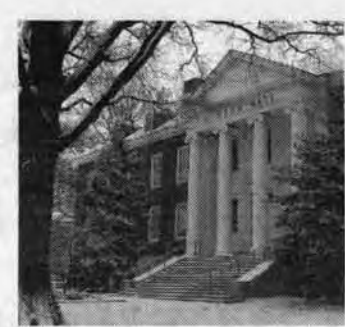


Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER Volume 16 • Number 15 • December 11, 2001



Winter Term
Classes Offer
Special
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Page 4

McCain Accepts Award, Fields Questions at Town Hall Meeting



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIDEO SERVICES

Sen. John McCain (above right), who is known for his crusade for campaign finance reform, came to the university last week to accept the Millard E. Tydings Award for Courage and Leadership in American Politics. Tydings, a former U.S. senator from Maryland, stood up to Sen. Joe McCarthy during his efforts in the early 1950s to label colleagues as communists. A subsequent smear campaign led by McCarthy against Tydings cost him re-election. Sen. Joseph Tydings (above left), son of Millard Tydings, presented the award to McCain.

Holiday Travel Plans Up in the Air

Outlook wondered whether the events of Sept. 11 and the current war in Afghanistan would be factors in our readers' decisions about holiday travel this year. The response was mixed.

Darryll Pines was scheduled to fly out of Dulles International Airport on Sept. 11. Needless



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Darryll Pines was scheduled to fly from Dulles to San Francisco the afternoon of Tuesday, Sept. 11.

to say, he never made that flight, nor the conference he was to attend in San Francisco. One might expect that after

such an apparent close brush with disaster, a person would be put off from flying for a while. But Pines, a professor of aerospace engineering, has flown several times in the ensuing months. Three weeks after the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C., Pines and his wife braved the risks, and the new strict security measures, to fly to Italy. "A lot of people were jittery," he said. "When we landed, everyone started clapping."

Pines' colleague Norman Wereley, also a professor of aerospace engineering, will be driving to Florida for the holidays this year, same as ever. He said he wouldn't have changed plans to fly if he'd had them. But other plans have been affected. A conference he was scheduled to attend in Hawaii on Dec. 15 was canceled due to a lack of

See **TRAVEL PLANS**, page 4

Elderly Healthcare Issues Focus of National Conference

Approximately 70 health policy experts from government, national trade associations and the health care provider community met last week at the Inn and Confer-



PHOTO BY TRACY VIRAG

Mark Meiners, director of the Medicare/Medicaid Integration Program, welcomed attendees and introduced the workshop agenda.

ence Center to hear presentations on how to improve and coordinate health care for the close to seven million primarily low-income, elderly Americans eligible for the two largest government health programs:

Medicare and Medicaid. In 1996, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Maryland Center on Aging responded to the need for a better system of care for those individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid (dual eligibles) by establishing the Medicare/Medicaid Integration Program (MMIP). The College Park-based program seeks to end the fragmentation of financing, case management and service delivery that currently exists between the two government programs in serving this population. There are currently 13 states involved in MMIP-sponsored projects.

"Everybody knows Medicare and Medicaid need to be working with each other," said Dennis Smith, director of Medicaid Programs for the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) who addressed the meeting. "The MMIP has been at the forefront of this movement."

Last Monday, CMS officials announced the formation of a

See **HEALTH CARE**, page 6

Raise Your Banner High! How Fabric and Design Create Pride

You may refer to the large bright and bold pieces of fabric on display at commencement by the generic term of flag or banner, but the more specific term is gonfalon.

First, a quick definition of gonfalon: A gonfalon was a type of flag or banner emblazoned with the personal arms of a nobleman, and borne on a staff. The term probably

derives from the Old Norse Gunn-fane, or war-flag.

The legacy of gonfalons can be followed back thousands of years, but at the University of Maryland, 1994 is about as far back as the colorful and regal banners go.

The university's gonfalons are used for formal academic ceremonies such as commencement, convocation and

the New Student Welcome. There is one for each of the colleges and they are stored in a Facilities Management building until they're needed.

Bob McIlhenny, who owns McIlhenny Banners in Gettysburg, Penn., was called on to create Maryland's gonfalons. He has been making flags and

See **GONFALONS**, page 6

Getting to Work Just Got Easier

Deborah Wiley's commute from "cow town" in Calvert County used to be a test of patience and endurance. Now, she can read, talk with new friends, or just watch the scenery go by.

Wiley is a member of the Department of Campus Parking's successful Park and Ride Van (PARV) program. Early in the semester, the campus community was asked about its interest in such a program. From the responses, two test vanpool lines were arranged



PHOTO BY MONETTE AUSTIN BAILEY

Josephine Short, who was hired by the Department of Campus Parking, is the driver for the Bowie Crossing line.

with 10 people each, one to Bowie Crossing and one to Scaggsville. Others are in the works. Vanpool participation is free, and emergency rides home are offered.

"We'll even take you home if you have to work overtime unexpectedly," says Bernard Palmer, vanpool supervisor. Two emergency rides back to the participant's vehicle are allowed per month.

Participants are picked up

See **VANPOOL**, page 6

dateline maryland

YOUR GUIDE TO UNIVERSITY EVENTS: DEC. 11-JAN. 13

TUESDAY

december 11

10 a.m.-12 p.m., Andre Watts Piano Masterclass
Gildenhorn Recital Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. World-famous pianist and artist-in-residence at the School of Music leads his second masterclass of the semester. For the School of Music's December concert calendar, visit www.umd.edu/music/calendar. For more information, contact Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at (301) 405-ARTS or visit www.clarice-smithcenter.umd.edu.

11 a.m.-12 p.m., Multiculturalism: Source of Jihad or Antidote to Jihad? 4205 Hornbake Library. In this diversity forum, Benjamin Barber, who holds a joint professorship in the Department of Government and Politics (BSOS) and the School of Public Affairs, will discuss how he deals with diversity and multiculturalism in his book "Jihad vs. McWorld." Sponsored by the University of Maryland Libraries' Diversity Committee. All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to attend the forum on this important subject. For more information, call Ann Masnik at 5-9263 or Tom Connors at 5-9255 or TC65@umail.umd.edu.

3-5 p.m. Black Faculty & Staff Association Celebration Nyumburu Cultural Center. The Board of Directors of the Black Faculty and Staff Association invites the campus community to its annual holiday celebration. For more information, call 4-7758.

WEDNESDAY

december 12

2-4 p.m., Holiday Reception Lobby, Main Administration Building. President Mote and the vice presidents host a holiday reception.

7-9:30 p.m. Beyond These Walls Holiday Toy Drive and Party See for Your Interest, page 8.

THURSDAY

december 13

4-6 p.m., University Senate Meeting 0200 Skinner. See For

Winter Outlook

This will be Outlook's final issue for the semester. There will be an online issue Jan. 15; please send Outlook all announcements and articles to be included in this version by Jan. 7. We will resume weekly print publication on Feb. 5. Have a safe and peaceful break.

Your Interest, page 8.

8-10 p.m., Janos Starker (cello), William Preucil (violin), & Shigeo Neriki (piano) Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Janos Starker and Shigeo Neriki join William Preucil, artist-in-residence at the University of Maryland's School of Music, for an evening of sonatas and Brahms' "Trio No. 1," a quintessential work of the Romantic imagination. Chopin, "Violin Sonata in g minor, Op. 65"; Mendelssohn, "Cello Sonata in D Major, Op. 58"; and Brahms, "Trio in B Major, Op. 8." Tickets are \$30, \$25 and \$20; call Amy Harbison at 5-8169 or harbison@wam.umd.edu, or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

FRIDAY

december 14

6:30-10:30 p.m., Scholarship Benefit Series: Brandenburg Concerti Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Distinguished faculty artists of the School of Music perform Bach's complete Brandenburg Concerti, six celebrated masterpieces. The alumni association will host a lecture and reception prior to the 7:30 p.m. performance. Tickets are \$20; call (301) 405-ARTS. For more information, see page 3.

SUNDAY

january 13

3 p.m., Orfée et Euridice Concert Hall, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. This concert production of the Paris 1774 version of the opera by Christopher Willibald Gluck features the internationally celebrated French tenor Jean-Paul Fouchécourt as Orfée and historically re-created dances in period costume. The produc-

Maryland Alumnus Works to Reduce Threats



PHOTO BY SHELDON SMITH

University President Dan Mote in discussion with Director Stephen Younger (l) and Air Force Lt. Col. John Parks (r), both of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency.

Stephen M. Younger, director of the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) and University of Maryland alumnus visited campus and spoke to students, faculty and staff about his career, and the DTRA's role in the post-Cold War and post-September 11 environment. Later during his Dec. 3 visit, he met with President Dan Mote and other university leaders to discuss mutual interests and potential interactions between the university and DTRA.

DTRA, located at Fort Belvoir, Va., is responsible for safeguarding America and its allies from weapons of mass destruction by reducing present threats and preparing for future threats. DTRA attempts to

influence the international environment while preparing for an uncertain future shadowed by the threat of terrorist attack.

Younger earned a doctorate in theoretical physics from the University of Maryland in 1978. Since that time, Younger served at the National Bureau of Standards (NIST), the Livermore National Laboratory, and the Los Alamos National Laboratory, before being appointed to his current position.

For Younger, research continues to be a major interest particularly that which involves large-scale computer simulations. He presently maintains an active collaboration in the theoretical study of dense matter, and in the application of computational models to sociology.

tion features Opera Lafayette, Ryan Brown, artistic director, Catherine Dubosc and Suzie LeBlanc, sopranos; The New York Baroque Dance Company, Catherine Turcoy, director; The Violins of Lafayette Orchestra and Chorus. Pre-performance discussion at 2 p.m. This opera performance made possible, in part, by a grant from the Florence Gould Foundation. Tickets are \$35, \$25 and \$20. For more information, contact Amy Harbison at 5-8169 or harbison@wam.umd.edu.

THURSDAY

december 27

7-9 p.m., Riversdale House Museum Winter Evenings 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park. Music, costumed interpreters, children's games, gingerbread baking in the open hearth kitchen and refreshments—all by the natural light of candles. Admission is \$5 (children 4 and under are admitted free). Also held Friday evening, Dec. 28. For more information, call (301) 864-0420; TTY (301) 699-2544, or visit www.pgsparks.com.

Corrections

In the story "Puppy Power Has a Hold on Volunteers" in the Dec. 4 issue, the Web address for the Prince George's County SPCA/Humane Society should have been: www.pgspca.org.

In "Helping Students Where They Need it," it should read that Jerry Lewis has been director of AAP since 1988. He has been on the campus since 1971. Also, the Academic Support for Returning Athletes program is funded by the Athletic Department and under the guidance of Kmt Shockley, a doctoral student in the College of Education. Lastly, it should be clarified that the summer transitional program is the first phase of the program for all students who are admitted to the university through the AAP.

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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calendar guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314 or 405. Calendar information for Outlook is compiled from a combination of inforM's master calendar and submissions to the Outlook office. Submissions are due two weeks prior to the date of publication. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail to outlook@accmail.umd.edu. *Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*).

Stages

NEWS FROM THE CLARICE SMITH

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Mac is Back!

"Is this a dagger which I see before me, or a pizza? Mmmm, pizzaaaa."

Welcome to the warped world of Canadian Rick Miller, where the dysfunctional humor of television's animated sitcom "The Simpsons" merges with Shakespeare's "Macbeth." The result is "MacHomer," Miller's reading of the Scottish play in the voices of more than 50 "Simpsons" characters.

"MacHomer" will come to the Ina and Jack Kay Theatre of the

Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, Jan. 29 at 8 p.m. More than 300 hand-painted slides and an original musical score accompany the show that is written and performed by Miller.

Last September "MacHomer" was scheduled to be performed as part of the official Dedication Week activities for the Center, but was postponed due to the tornado that swept through the campus that Monday evening. During his return visit here, Miller will participate in two days of performances, one for the general public and a second on Jan. 30 exclusively for University of Maryland students.

The script of MacHomer (85 percent of which remains in the words of Shakespeare) is embellished with pop culture references. "It's a very loose interpretation of 'Macbeth,'" said Miller, "but it's also pretty strict to the text." He came up with the idea of



Rick Miller as MacHomer

"MacHomer" while he was playing Murderer #2 in a 1994 production of "Macbeth."

"I had a small part so I spent a lot of time backstage concocting this little ridiculous skit I was going to perform at the cast party. Over the winter, I developed it and realized maybe some people might actually come and see this thing. And that's where 'MacHomer' came from."

Miller said "MacHomer" is his homage to "The Simpsons." "It's fun. It's silly, but it really is a tribute to both 'The Simpsons' and Shakespeare."

MacHomer is accessible to all audiences. Tickets to the Jan. 29 performance are available at the Ticket Office or by calling (301) 405-ARTS. Single tickets are \$20 and youth tickets are \$5. Tickets to the student-only production are free (with valid university I.D.) and available now at the Ticket Office on a first-come, first-served basis.

World Famous Performers Form Trio for the Center's Chamber Music Concert

Three virtuoso performers, who are also teachers of worldwide influence, will create a stellar trio in the Concert Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Cellist Janos Starker will be joined by violinist William Preucil and pianist Shigeo Neriki in a romantic chamber music concert Thursday, Dec. 13 at 8 p.m.

The evening's program includes Richard Strauss' "Sonata in F major for Cello and Piano, Op. 6"; Johannes Brahms' "Sonata No. 2 in A major for Violin and Piano, Op. 100" and Franz Schubert's "Piano Trio in B-flat major, D. 898."

Starker is recognized throughout the world as one of the most masterful musicians of our time. He is highly revered as a cello soloist, chamber musician and

Bernard Heiden, Alan Hovhaness, Jean Martinon, Miklós Rózsa, Robert Starer and Chou Wen-chung, as well as premieres of countless recital works. Starker's many honors include a 1948 Grand prix du

professor of music at Indiana University, guest professor of piano at Soai University in Osaka and guest professor of piano at the Toho Gakuen School of Music in Tokyo.

Violinist Preucil, concertmaster of the Cleveland Orchestra since April 1995 and artist-in-residence at the University of Maryland, has appeared regularly as a soloist with the orchestra in concert-



Neriki

disque (France) and a 1997 Grammy Award (USA), for works from more than 100 albums.

Pianist Neriki has collaborated in concerts with Starker since 1976. He has appeared with leading American orchestras and is a frequent soloist with all of Japan's top orchestras. He performs at chamber music festivals worldwide and has appeared in Europe and with the Chamber Music Society of Holland, among others. Neriki's critically acclaimed Tokyo Soloists chamber music group, formed in 1991, presents an annual series of concerts. An active and respected teacher, Neriki gives piano master classes throughout the world. His regular posts are:



Starker

to performances at both Severance Hall in Cleveland and the Blossom Music Center in Ohio. During his seven seasons as first violinist of the Grammy-winning Cleveland Quartet, he performed more than 100 concerts each year in the world's major music capitals and made numerous recordings with the Quartet for Tear International including Beethoven's 17 string quartets and a variety of chamber works by Hayden, Mozart, Schubert and Brahms.

Tickets are \$20-30, \$5 for students. For more information, call (301) 405-ARTS.



Preucil

teacher. His technical mastery, intensely expressive playing and musical intelligence has informed world premiere performances of concertos by David Baker, Antal Doráti,

Sneak a Peek at Next Semester's Theatre Offerings

The Department of Theatre brings an exciting mix of offerings to the stage in 2002. Beginning in February, Mitch Hébert directs George Walker's "Problem Child" in the Robert and Arlene Kogod Theatre. Action in this comedy unfolds in a seedy motel room where characters R.J. and his wife Denise are trying to get their baby back from foster care after he was taken away by social workers. The story suc-

cessfully weaves the tragedy through the comedy of the problem-struck parents and their battle with their authoritative social worker, Helen.

On March 8, director Heather Nathans pokes fun at New York's high society in Anna Cora Mowatt's "Fashion." The 1845 period satire is a comical look at the changing world we live in. The Ina and Jack Kay Theatre will be transformed into the New York social scene. Find out if Mrs. Tiffany, the play's main character, will sacrifice everything to make a splash in the world of fashion.

Spring semester concludes with "Polaroid Stories," directed by Adele Cabot, in the Robert and Arlene Kogod Theatre, April 26-May 3. The 1997 contemporary tale weaves ancient mythology from Ovid's "Metamorphoses" with small vignettes about modern-day American kids on the fringe of society. The result is a candid and unflinching look at the beauty and tragedy of transformation.

Tickets to all Department of Theatre productions are available; call (301) 405-ARTS for the full performance schedule.

For ticket information or to request a season brochure, contact the Ticket Office at 301.405.ARTS or visit www.claricesmithcenter.umd.edu.

CLARICE SMITH
PERFORMING ARTS
CENTER AT MARYLAND

A Feast for the Ears

On Friday, Dec. 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall, the School of Music faculty artists will perform Bach's complete Brandenburg Concerti. A benchmark of Baroque music, the concertos' unique combination of instruments show a lighter side of Bach's genius. Timeless and festive, these six beloved works usher in the holiday season with a flourish. Proceeds from the Scholarship Benefit Series provide scholarships for students of the School of Music. Tickets are \$20/\$5 for students. Call (301) 405-ARTS for more information.

Let it Snow, Say Winter Term Advocates

While most of the campus hibernates during January, a relatively small group of faculty and students engage in intensive learning experiences many wish could be replicated during the regular semester.

Winter term, in its fifth year, offers instructors an opportunity to teach a course in a new way, or teach a new course, and students a chance to learn in a different setting. During a recent forum, a few instructors offering courses this winter discussed with prospective students and other instructors what is planned for Winter Term 2002.

"These are models of nontraditional course design," said Jim Newton, assistant to the dean of undergraduate studies.

It is this chance to experiment that first attracted Jo Paoletti, from American Studies, to Winter Term teaching. She used the opportunity to put her "Diversity in American Culture" course online a few years ago. Though such a course can be time consuming due to set up and maintenance requirements, Paoletti found it to be a great way to engage students who wouldn't otherwise be able to participate because of where they were during the winter break. Paoletti said the online course isn't feasible during the school year, in part because of her other courses and also because of non-teaching responsibilities.

"The other nice thing about Winter Term is there are no meetings. [By teaching online] I also don't have to worry about parking or breaking my leg on the ice." She jokes about giving up her traditional semester courses.

Edward Kaufman, a government and politics professor, and his colleague John Davies will use the Winter Term to offer a timely, intensive course called "Seminar in International Relations and World Politics: Second Track Diplomacy and Peace Building." It is a two-part course, with the course and its workshop being co-requisites. Kaufman says it is not just for those focusing on international relations or public policy, but anyone interested in how the process works. He did warn, though, that it is a time-intensive endeavor.

"We meet from 6 to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and for eight hours Saturday and Sunday," for three weeks, he says.

People don't seem to mind. The class is so popular that other countries use it to work on real-life situations. Students develop solutions in tandem with government officials from Israel, Ecuador and Lesotho. Also, students from American and George Mason universities sign up

for GVPT 409J and K. The courses are already full.

"We're trying to maximize the impact of teaching during Winter Term," said Kaufman. "We use this as a laboratory for our research. It helps us develop new projects."

Joyce Kornblatt also knows the value of Winter Term teaching for both students and instructors. This will be her third year teaching Writing Women's Lives, an all-day, eight-day workshop that offers partici-



FILE PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Although Winter Term is usually cold and quiet, classes offer special opportunities.

pants an opportunity to spend large blocks of time writing and sharing their work with other writers, free from a regular semester's day-to-day distractions and other classes.

"The students come in knowing what they signed up for but are horrified when they realize what they've signed up for," she says. "They can't imagine how it will work. 'How will I stay awake talking about literature for eight hours?' But I divide the day into short modules."

Again, because the campus is emptier in the winter, she can use more of Synovus Hall to give students quiet places to write and discuss in small groups as well.

"It's a more intimate way of teaching," she says. Newton adds that students must find it an enjoyable experience, as there is a waiting list for Kornblatt's course already.

Another teacher chooses to leave the campus altogether for his course. Jerrold Greenberg's Service Learning and Health Education course takes approximately one dozen students to South Florida to work with senior citizens on stress management, nutrition, community and conflict resolution and physical activity for eight days. They outline workshops on each topic that they then present to seniors in a variety of settings.

"This is not a vacation," said Greenberg. "They work from 9 to 5, but there is some down time."

Students often come back, he says, with renewed commitment to their own grandparents and with a desire to do more for senior citizens in general. Greenberg comes back every year with a greater appreciation for the enthusiasm of his students.

"Teaching this class is an experience I ought to have to pay for," he said.

To find out more about these Winter Term courses or others, look in a schedule of classes or go to www.testudo.umd.edu and click on Schedule of Classes.

Student Honor Pledge Approved for Use Next Spring

President Dan Mote and the University Senate recently approved the adoption of an honor pledge that students will be asked to sign after taking an exam or submitting a paper.

The following is the current wording of the pledge: "I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment." A subcommittee is working to finalize the new pledge system for implementation in Spring 2002.

Gary Pavela, director of judicial programs and student ethical development, describes the process by saying: "Students will write out the statement by hand and then sign to pledge that the work they have done is their own work."

The pledge is in the same spirit as those in use at private institutions such as Vanderbilt and Princeton.

"Graduates of private institutions look back on the signing of a pledge as something they valued, that they were part of a community committed to that kind of academic integrity. That's the

kind of climate we want here," Pavela says.

Students will not be required to sign the pledge, but will be encouraged to do so. Faculty members will be encouraged to request an explanation from any student who declines.

"Students may decline as a matter of principle to sign an oath," Pavela says. "But failure to sign the pledge doesn't excuse anyone from the university's academic integrity standards. Everyone still has to abide by the rules."

"Most students won't have a problem signing the pledge," says Justin Coon, an accounting and English major who serves as chairman of the Student Council. "In the long run it helps to know that all students are held to the same standard. And since we are one of the nation's leading research universities, it reaffirms our commitment to academic excellence."

The University of Maryland is one of the few large public universities to have revitalized the use of student honor codes.

Travel Plans: Some Are Cautious

Continued from page 1

registrants, presumably because many were afraid to travel by air after the terrorist attacks.

Despite all the recent turmoil, many say their holiday travel plans will not change. "My family lives in the area," said Michael Fu, a professor at the Smith School of Business, where he teaches several subjects including probability and statistics. He has already flown more than once

since Sept. 11, as has David Levermore, an IPST/math professor and director of Applied Math and Scientific Computation (AMSC).

"I've already done two trips since [Sept. 11]. I'm not going to be intimidated by the events. There are certain things in life that we do every day that are much more risky," Levermore said. "Your risk of getting dinged on Route 1 is probably higher" than falling victim to a terrorist attack, he said.

William Watts, a food service aide at the Dairy, agrees. If he were planning any travel, he wouldn't worry. "I mean, you could walk down the street and the same thing could happen to you," he said.

Rachelle Beasley, an accounting associate with Material and Nuclear Engineering, isn't changing her agenda

either. This year she did her holiday traveling at Thanksgiving. However, she said that while some years she travels both at Thanksgiving and in December, this year she "didn't feel like going through the stress of it."

Others have rearranged their plans completely. Allison Casal, a sophomore criminology major, was going to fly home to New York, but changed her mind after Thanksgiving travel proved to be a hassle. "No carry-ons were allowed and everyone's bags were searched. I don't really want to deal with that after finals," she said. "I decided to have my dad drive me [home for winter break]."

Not only Casal's travel plans, but also how she will spend her time during the break have changed. "My boyfriend will be with me, and we probably won't be able

to visit the Empire State Building," she said, as she expects it will be closed. And she doesn't expect to find work over this break, as so many New York residents are unemployed.

Tonya Wright and Joan Parker, both accounting associates in the Agriculture Business Office, are opting not to fly for a different reason. "I'm scared," declared Wright, who said she will not fly again, period.

Parker hadn't planned to fly this Christmas. It was enough of an ordeal for her to fly back from Alaska a few days after Sept. 11. She had planned a trip to California this February for her mother's 75th birthday celebration, but now Parker is on a fence about whether to go. "It's hard to say I'm going to go. I'm a fearful flyer anyway," she said.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

Joan Parker (l) and Tonya Wright will not likely be flying this season—or next.

When a Party Might Need to be Just That Workshop Addresses Religion, Holidays and the Workplace

One participant told a story of offending a shopping mall clerk because he didn't want a free Christmas ornament. Another attendee expressed dismay that when it comes to holidays, people are divided into Christian or Jewish camps, with no room for alternatives. Yet another wondered what was so wrong about putting a small Christmas tree on her desk?

All were part of a workshop sponsored by the Office of Human Relations Programs (OHRP) called "It's Not Just 'Secret Santa' in December: Addressing Workplace Climate Issues Linked to Christian Privilege." The three-hour seminar looked at ways in which traditional, mainstream holiday celebrations often ignore and offend people of other faiths, or those who don't claim a faith. Presenters stressed that increasingly diverse workplace environments can be negatively affected by what they called "Christian privilege." The workshop also sought to get participants thinking about ways they could be more inclusive.

"Even having this discus-

sion now, at this time of year, is based on Christian privilege," said facilitator Mark Brimhall-Vargas, assistant director of OHRP, adding that it is because of the value placed on Christmas that the discussion seems more relevant.

But it was clear, even with only 11 participants, that there is a wide enough range in beliefs systems to warrant some serious attention to the subject. What sort of assumptions do people make about the Christian holiday season and its celebrations that may affect office morale? asked Lew Schlosser, a doctoral candidate in counseling psychology and one of the workshop's facilitators.

Lulu Barnachea, with the University Libraries, appreciated the dialogue this and other questions raised, but was bothered by the use of the word privilege in the

first place. "It automatically divides people into those with and those without," she said.

That is one of the points, stressed Ann Masnik, also with the libraries. "The privileges are just there and people don't realize that they have them," she said.

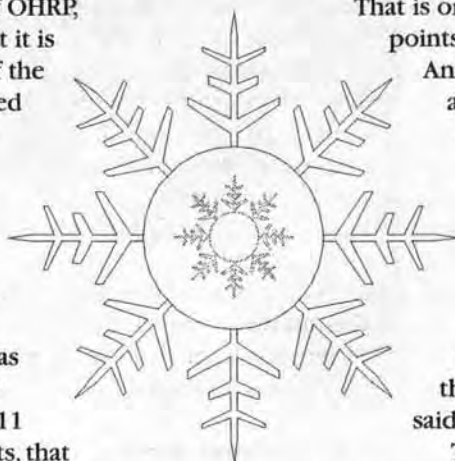
To demonstrate this point, a list of "40 Examples of Christian Privilege" was distributed. Participants were asked to consider each from a Christian perspective, a non-Christian perspective and from the perspective of someone who claims no faith. Statements such as "It is likely that state and federal holidays coincide with my religious practices, thereby having little to no impact on my job and/or education," and "I can protect myself (and my children) from people who may not like me (or them) based on

my religion" were listed. Janet Alessandrini, with Campus Recreation Services, summed up the thoughts of a few when she said, "The whole list was overwhelming...to see what I take for granted."

Seemingly inoffensive acts, such as putting out a plate of Christmas cookies or bringing a basket of Easter candy to the office for public consumption may offend some, said Craig Alimo, a graduate student and sexual harassment prevention program specialist with OHRP. It is a question of intent versus impact.

"This is a topic that even people who do diversity work don't want to tackle," said Christine Clark, executive director of OHRP. An interesting note on just how complicated this subject can be: OHRP has yet to decide on whether or not to hold an end-of-the-year/holiday party. It has been a months-long debate. "We have a facilitator helping us work through this," said Brimhall-Vargas.

For more on this subject, go to www.inform.umd.edu/ohrp, or call Brimhall-Vargas at (301) 405-2840.



Notable

Earlene Armstrong, professor in the Department of Entomology, is one of 10 recipients of the 2001 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring. The award is given to individuals and institutions who display excellence in promoting participation of women, minorities and persons with disabilities in those fields. She will receive her award, which includes a \$10,000 grant, on Dec. 12 in Washington, D.C.

The University of Maryland's chapter of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society held its winter initiation at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County on Dec. 2. Two College Park campus members were awarded honorary membership: Department of English visiting professor **Michael Olmert** and **Olive Reid Johnson**, graduate assistant in the Philip Merrill College of Journalism. Also at the ceremony, two students were awarded the Donald N. Langenberg University Service Award.

Jerrold Levinson, professor in the Department of Philosophy, will direct a six-week National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute called "Art, Mind, and Cognitive Science" at the university. He and three associate directors from other universities received a \$186,000 grant from the NEH to host the institute. Twenty-five competitively selected participants, and 20 visiting faculty, will seek to advance research and teaching at the intersection of aesthetics/art, theory/philosophy of art, and cognitive science.

Stephen G. Brush, Distinguished University Professor of the History of Science, received the Joseph H. Hazen Prize from the History of Science Society in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the teaching of the history of science. Brush, who holds a joint appointment with the Department of History and the Institute for Physical Science and Technology, received a cash prize and a certificate last month.

Elizabeth J. Beise, **Thomas D. Cohen**, **Bei-Lok Hu** and **Ramamoorthy Ramesh** were honored with fellowships during the American Physical Society's November 2001 meeting. They were among only one half of one percent of the total APS membership to be nominated and elected to the prestigious status of Fellow of the American Physical Society this year.

Beise and Cohen were recommended for membership by the Society's Division of Nuclear Physics. Hu was recommended for membership by the Society's Gravitation Topical Group and Ramesh was recommended for membership by the Society's Division of Materials Physics.

Professors Lead Research on High-Quality Teaching

In schools across the country, the best teachers—those whose students are motivated to achieve despite adverse circumstances—are always well known and in high demand. Parents and educators, alike, long for a way to capture the intangible elements of these prized classrooms and spread them around to benefit all children.

Researchers at the College of Education are hoping to identify these intangibles as it teams up with the Montgomery County Public Schools for a new study that examines the characteristics of high-quality teaching. Funded by a grant to total more than \$4.5 million over five years, the project focuses on the classrooms of highly successful 4th and 5th grade teachers in moderate- to high-poverty schools across the county. It seeks to discover how these teachers help struggling learners develop competency in reading and mathematics.

"Most studies identify a set of practices that teachers should adopt. This study respects the expertise of teachers and tries to identify and study those who are particularly successful so we can understand better the way they organize instruction, cover the curriculum, and motivate and engage students," says Linda Valli, associate professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and principal investigator for the project. "By studying in-depth how these schools and teachers promote learning, we can deepen our understanding of what it takes to ensure that students acquire foundational skills in reading and mathematics by the 4th and 5th grades."

Funding for the study comes from the Interagency Education Research Initiative (IERI), a combined effort of the U.S.

Department of Education, National Institutes of Health and National Science Foundation. IERI supports rigorous, interdisciplinary research aimed at improving pre K-12 student learning and achievement in reading, mathematics and science.

Valli says existing research suggests that high-quality teaching requires educators to frequently expand and adapt their teaching styles to accommodate diverse student populations. The new study will pay particular attention to teacher-student interactions to help researchers understand the various ways teachers adapt instruction to different students. Over the course of the study, some 120 teachers will have had three different classrooms of children.

"Teaching is a socially-embedded practice," says Robert Croninger, co-principal investigator and assistant professor of education policy and leadership at Maryland. "We have not had much data that investigates the complex nature of teaching in multiple classrooms over an extended period of time. That is what makes this study different."

Specifically, the team will explore the teacher's role in the classroom, interactions with students and teaching practices aimed at closing the achievement gap between groups of students. Participating teachers will keep a daily log of their activity within the classroom as well as the content covered. Researchers will interview the teachers and observe their classes six to eight times a year, for three years, to see how their practices have changed over time or in response to the challenges of different groups of students. They will also discuss how school policies and proce-

dures promote or impede high-quality teaching.

The result, says Croninger, will be an unusually detailed, longitudinal set of data that provides valuable insight into how to enhance teaching quality and promote learning of fundamental reading and mathematical skills. "These findings could have powerful implications for the development of policies that support and sustain effective teaching practices in the state of Maryland and across the nation," says Croninger.

For Montgomery County, the study is particularly timely as the school district works to meet the challenges of an increasingly diverse student population and a growing achievement gap between low-income schools and those with more advantaged student populations. The 19th largest school district in the nation, it has seen the enrollment of low-income students double in the past 20 years, and approximately one-fifth of its students speak 119 different languages.

"There are too many people who are willing to say that high-quality teaching is doing whatever it takes to raise standardized test scores, but we are not going in with any assumption about that," says Valli. "I hope this study gives teachers a greater sense of the possibility of reaching all students."

The research team for this study also includes professors Patricia Ann Alexander, Department of Human Development; Marilyn J. Chambliss, curriculum and instruction; Anna O. Graeber, curriculum and instruction; Jeremy N. Price, curriculum and instruction; and Rose Savitsky, project manager. John C. Larson of the Office of Shared Accountability for Montgomery County Schools is also a member of the team.

Gonfalons: Colorful, Individual

Continued from page 1

banners full-time for the last 10 years, for mostly colleges and universities.

He developed the general design: the upper part of the gonfalon has the college name and the lower part is divided into four quadrants: two parts have elements of the Maryland state flag and the other two parts have graphic identities representing each college. Margaret Hall, director of University Publications, was the associate director in 1994, and was in charge of coming up with the designs for each college.

"She had the hard part," McIlhenny said.

Hall said she contacted the colleges via the deans or dean representatives and asked what kind of images would work for the college. Some didn't respond at all while others already had specific symbols that they wanted to incorporate. Each design had to be approved by the college before it could be sent to McIlhenny for production.

Once McIlhenny received the designs, it only took him a few days to make the gonfalons, which are sewn on brightly colored nylon fabric and are 3 feet by 5 feet in size.

With the cross bar and pole used to prop up and carry it, McIlhenny said the banners weigh no more than 5 pounds.

"I thought they were gorgeous," said Hall, remembering seeing them for the first time. "We went out and celebrated that day and took him to lunch."

The gonfalons were first used at Spring 1995 com-

memorations.

"When we take photos they're so colorful. They're gorgeous. You have a celebration going on and color in the background," Hall said, adding that the gonfalons are a much better background than a black curtain.

Hall also said that she was impressed by the quality from which they were made. McIlhenny even



The gonfalon bearers line up for official university business at the fall 2001 new student welcome.

FILE PHOTO BY CYNTHIA MITCHEL

mencement and McIlhenny came down to see them on display.

"The audience erupted into applause when they were first brought in," he

sewed special bags to store them in.

Those same gonfalons are still used in commencement today. There have been a few adjustments. The business school removed the word "management" from its name and the gonfalon had to be changed to reflect that. Also, in 1998, when the university adopted a new logo, one of the gonfalons went back to McIlhenny to have the new logo added on.

He has also made duplicates for colleges who wanted their own gonfalon to use at their discretion and the College of Behavioral and Social Science had gonfalons made for all of its departments for its college commencement services.

"You see the power that symbols like flags have to people because they have worked hard to earn a degree," he said, thinking of the effort that students, parents and teachers put into the collegiate process. "Flags give people something on which to focus those strong feelings of pride."

McIlhenny took his camera to that first commencement in 1995 to take pictures of his gonfalons. He watched graduates pose for photos next to them.

"It's not that they like the flag," he said, "they like what the banners stand for. That's the fun I get to see."

Vanpool: New Friends, No Stress

Continued from page 1



PHOTO BY MONETTE AUSTIN BAILEY

Riders on the Bowie Crossing vanpool line include (front to back, l-r) Dave Langdon, who works for Dining Services and lives in Crofton; Bill Mankiew, who works in Main Administration for OIT and lives in Churchton; Evelyn Chasten, who works for campus parking and lives in Upper Marlboro; Deborah Wiley, who also works for campus parking and lives in Dunkirk; Stacey Barton, who works for human development and lives in Bowie and Bill Phillips, who works for the agriculture department in H.J. Patterson and lives in Stevensville.

in the morning from an established Park and Ride stop and dropped off at several spots on campus. The route is reversed for the return ride. Stops on campus were arranged to be as close to the participants' jobs as possible.

"I love it," says Evelyn Chasten, whose campus parking office is one of the stops. She is also the van captain, which means she makes sure the driver, Josephine Short, doesn't pull off and leave anyone scheduled to ride. Chasten says those not riding in the morning, for example, need to let her know by about 6:30 so that the rest of the pool doesn't wait.

Vanpool members say they look out for each other, if one is running to catch the bus, other members will let the driver know. At a recent

evening pickup, Short held up a cell phone to ask if anyone had lost theirs. It was Wiley's.

There aren't any rules and members joke easily with each other. When Bill Phillips is asked about the rest of his commute home after he is dropped off in Bowie, he jokes, "Sometimes I bring Josephine candy and she'll take me all the way [out there]."

Wiley, who used to live in Philadelphia and rode the subway to work, likes getting back to her habit of reading while commuting. She also likes how it affects her schedule.

"It gets me out of the office earlier, because I know I have to catch the van."

For more information about the PAR V program, call (301) 314-PARK, or go to www.umd.edu/parking.

Individual College and School Commencement Ceremonies

Wednesday, Dec. 19

Behavioral and Social Sciences, 7 p.m., Cole Student Activities Building
Individual Studies, 5 p.m., Anne Arundel Hall, Honors Lounge
Life Science, 7 p.m., Memorial Chapel, (Tickets required; four per student. Pick up at 1300 Symons Hall.)

Thursday, Dec. 20

Main Convocation 9 a.m., Cole Student Activities Building
Agriculture & Natural Resources, 2:30 p.m., Memorial Chapel
American Studies, English, Comparative Literature, Women's Studies, noon, Tawes Theatre
Architecture, noon, Architecture Building Auditorium
Art Studio, noon, Art-Sociology Building, Room 2203
A. James Clark School of Engineering, 2:30 p.m., Reckord Armory
Classics, Foreign Languages, Linguistics, noon, Tydings Hall, Room 0130
Communication, noon, Ritchie Coliseum
Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences, noon, Memorial Chapel
Education, noon, Reckord Armory
Health & Human Performance, noon, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Concert Hall
History, Jewish Studies, Russian Area Studies, noon, Skinner Building, Room 0200
Information Studies, noon, Biology/Psychology Building, Room 1240
Philip Merrill School of Journalism, noon, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Kay Theatre
Philosophy, noon, Skinner Building, Room 1125
Robert H. Smith School of Business, noon, Cole Student Activities Building

See page 8 for additional information.

Health Care: Combining Efforts

Continued from page 1

Technical Assistance Group (TAG) to work on Medicare/Medicaid program coordination on issues related to care of the dual eligibles. The TAG is a joint CMS and state government effort to provide a forum for working through the many issues blocking more integration.

"This is a significant announcement and the MMIP is proud that several of its members will be participating in this important effort," said Mark Meiners, MMIP director. Nearly 60 percent of the TAG is MMIP participants. Meiners, who is also associate director of the Center on Aging, said that this kind of federal and state attention to integration would not have happened without the MMIP's efforts at reform.

The National Association of State Medicaid Directors, which serves

as a focal point of communication between the states and federal government, is coordinating the TAG.

People who are dually eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare are low-income and aged, blind or disabled. They are more likely than Medicare-only beneficiaries to need assistance with activities of daily living and to have multiple chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and mental health and cognitive impairments.

During the two-day program at the conference center, participants also heard presentations on programs such as the Program for All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) and Minnesota's Senior Health Options. Both use Medicare and Medicaid funds to provide frail elderly and disabled persons with

coordinated care in the community. These programs are credited with preventing costly institutionalization and providing consumer-sensitive care.

In 1997, there were 6.7 million dually eligible individuals representing 17 percent of the Medicare population but who use 28 percent of Medicare funds. They also make up 19 percent of Medicaid beneficiaries, yet use 35 percent of Medicaid funds. The proportion of the U.S. population 65 and older will increase to almost 20 percent over the next two decades. The number of those Americans over age 85 are expected to grow to seven million.

To find out more about the Center on Aging or to read several reports the MMIP has published, go to www.umd.edu/aging.

Life is a Bowl of Oranges!

The University of Maryland football team has been invited to play in the 2001 FedEx Orange Bowl in Miami on Jan. 2. This is Maryland's first bowl invitation in 11 years. The Terrapins finished their regular season 10-1, as Atlantic Coast Conference champions and ranked seventh in the Associated Press and ESPN/USA Today poll. Maryland is expected to play sixth-ranked Florida.

This is Maryland's first trip to a bowl game since 1990 and its first return to the Orange Bowl since 1956. The Terrapins have not been in a New Year's bowl game since 1977.

First-year head football coach Ralph Friedgen has been honored as the Home Depot National Coach of the Year and CNN/SI Coach of the Year. He was also voted ACC Coach of the Year.

Ticket applications for the Orange Bowl are available now and for priority consideration should be received by Wednesday, Dec. 12. Travel package options are also available. All tickets to the game will be allocated through the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. First priority for tickets will go to Terrapin Club members. Season ticket holders get second priority and Maryland faculty, staff and students have third priority.

Tickets not sold by Dec. 12 will go on sale to the public. For information about purchasing tickets visit www.inform.umd.edu/CampusInfo/Departments/InstAdv/nowandthen/bowl2001/.

Helping Out at Home

Every year, faculty and staff contribute to more than 240 university-based funds. These gifts support colleges, schools, departments, programs, fellowships and projects. This year's Faculty and Staff campaign seeks to continue making a difference in the lives and education of the university community.

There are several ways to give:

- Online at www.maryland.edu/philanthropy
- Payroll deduction
- Personal check
- Credit card (MasterCard, VISA, American Express or Discover)
- Appreciated Securities
- Real estate
- Gift-in-Kind (These include books for the library, lab equipment, computers, etc.)

Gifts larger than \$100 are recognized university-wide through membership in an honorary club associated with the level of the gift. The donors name may be published in the annual Honor Roll of Donors with others who have made similar commitments to the university.

Payroll deduction, which follows the calendar year and needs to be submitted annually, is a convenient way to make a contribution. If, for example, the total pledge is \$1,000, the bi-weekly deduction will be \$38.41. A \$500 gift would be broken into \$19.23 bi-weekly deductions. Deduction cards may be obtained by calling (301) 405-8073.

Below is a sampling of funds to which contributions can be made:

- James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership
- Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center
- School of Architecture Gift Fund
- Baltimore Incentive Awards Program
- Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center
- College Park Scholars
- David C. Driskell Center for the Study of the African Diaspora



Verbatim

Nearly 70 percent of Americans want U.S. troops to follow up the war against Afghanistan-based Arab terrorists by going after Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, according to a poll released yesterday by a University of Maryland organization. And perhaps even more significantly, support for an "active" U.S. role in world affairs has leaped to 81 percent, the highest recorded since the end of the Second World War. "Isolationism is dead," said I.M. Destler, an adviser to the Program on International Policy Attitudes, which published the results at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "Osama bin Laden has made the biggest mistake anyone's made since December 7, 1941, about American sentiment," he added. Destler's pronouncement on the efficacy of Osama bin Laden's foreign policy was carried in the *Calgary Sun*, Nov. 14.

Critics of the anti-bioterrorism efforts of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention risk committing the same error that some AIDS activists did in the 1980's. Back then, the National Institutes of Health were assailed for a slow and ineffective response to AIDS, but the N.I.H. had never been set up to respond to a public health emergency. Similarly, since its beginning as an agency for combating wartime malaria, the CDC's job has been tracking and cracking naturally occurring or inadvertently generated disease outbreaks. It has performed that task admirably well, but bioterrorism presents a vastly different problem. Blaming government agencies for failing at jobs they were not created to perform is unproductive." Christopher Foreman, professor in the School of Public Affairs, wrote a letter that appeared in the *New York Times*, Nov. 14.

Statesman Nelson Mandela on Wednesday called for an "international negotiating machinery" in the Middle East, insisting it was the sole path to peace in the conflict-ridden region. Presenting the fourth annual Anwar Sadat Lecture for Peace here at the University of Maryland, the 83-year-old former South African president urged that "we must have an international negotiating machinery" in the Middle East. That would include the United States, Britain, France, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Mandela said he told US President George W. Bush on Monday: "You must accept this proposal, because it is the only one that will bring about peace in the Middle East." "It is appropriate in this Sadat lecture," the Nobel Peace Prize winner opined, "that we should point specifically to the situation in the Middle East and the imperative that a lasting and just settlement be found to that long-simmering conflict" between Israelis and Palestinians, which has seen nearly 1,000 people killed since the Pales-

tinian intifada, or uprising, broke out in September 2000. Mandela's thoughts at his Anwar Sadat Lecture were carried around the world. This report was by Agence France-Presse, Nov. 15.

Even the famous collapse in stock financing for infant high-tech companies isn't what it's cracked up to be. Unlike bankers and bondholders, stock investors take ownership stakes in companies. "The quantity of the deal flow is down a bit" for venture-capital stock investments, "but the quality is either the same or improved," says Donald Spero, director of the Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Maryland. "Entrepreneurship is alive and well and thriving, but it's tougher and more sober." Of course it is. The whole financing environment is tougher. That's what recessions are for. The economy is weeding out the inefficient, the overextended, the unlucky and the lunatic. Spero's overview of the present climate for start-up companies appeared in the *Baltimore Sun*, Nov. 18.

Toss out the high-field magnets and other exotic equipment, and physics Prof. Steven Anlage's superconductivity lab at the University of Maryland, College Park could pass for a back room at the United Nations. His graduate students hail from Brazil, Pakistan and Taiwan. Joining them on the frontier of electric-power research is a Russian post-doctoral scholar. Together with the rest of the physics department, they work on projects ranging from NASA satellites to quantum computing for the Defense Department. But is this already a scene from the past? Seeking to close the loopholes that allowed one of the September 11 hijackers to remain in America on an expired student visa, the Bush administration and some legislators are looking to change the way foreign students are admitted and tracked. Congress is weighing a spate of proposals, from creating a foreign-student database to a moratorium on new visas. Professor Anlage's class was the lead in a story on the narrowing door for foreign students in *U.S. News & World Report*, Nov. 26.

The show is the first on American soil to draw from the Gordon W. Prange Collection, 21 million pages of books, pamphlets, newspapers, periodicals, news agency photos, posters and maps produced in occupied Japan and housed at the University of Maryland, College Park. American troops and civilian workers led the Allied Forces' effort to demilitarize and democratize Japan following World War II. Prange, a university historian, was serving in the Navy with the occupying forces. After his Naval service, he remained in Japan and worked as the chief of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's historical staff. "The

occupation period really was a pivotal time in Japanese history and in our relationship with the Japanese," says Amy Wasserstrom, manager of the Prange Collection. As she planned the exhibit, Wasserstrom concentrated on how the postwar period set "the course for the Japan of today in very major ways, and that the occupation and occupation forces really overhauled so many different aspects of the culture." While the exhibit only skims the intricacies of overhauling a country, it does suggest a political strategy respectful of Japan's heritage. "I have to say from everything I've read about the occupation, [the Allied Forces made an effort] to come in and democratize but allowed the Japanese to find their own path to democracy," Wasserstrom says. "I think many of the intellectuals in the occupation advised MacArthur not to purge Japan of all of its history and tradition." The in-depth look at the Prange Collection being exhibited in Baltimore was printed in the *Baltimore Sun*, Nov. 24.

"The world as a whole has not fully absorbed how powerful biotechnology is getting," said Dr. John D. Steinbruner, director of the Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland, part of the University of Maryland. "This is a real watershed." Indeed, within days of the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, the Biotechnology Industry Organization, acting at the government's request, asked all its member companies what technology they had that could be used to create bioweapons and asked them to be on the alert for unusual orders for their products. About 30 of the 400 companies that responded reported that they had had some inquiry in the past that might have been suspicious, according to Carl B. Feldbaum, president of the trade group. He said the information was turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Some experts say that given the complexities of the technology, scientists themselves, as opposed to legislators, have to take the lead in designing ways to ensure proper uses of biotechnology.

The National Academy of Sciences and Dr. Steinbruner at Maryland, working separately under grants from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, are beginning studies aimed at designing rules for the scientists aimed at deterring bioterrorism. But developing such a framework will be difficult. "You're talking about institutional arrangements that don't exist, for which there are no good models," Dr. Steinbruner said. One big problem is that the same tools, information and experiments that would be used to develop weapons are used to make drugs as well. Steinbruner's critical role in defeating bioterrorism was revealed in the *New York Times*, Nov. 27.

For Your Interest

Good Will Spreading

Community Service Programs provides an extensive list of holiday community service opportunities taking place throughout the month of December. Opportunities range from donating toys, food, clothing and other items to visiting nursing homes to sing holiday songs. Interested individuals can call Community Service Programs at (301) 314-CARE to receive a copy or visit the Web site at www.umd.edu/csp.

One particular opportunity: The student group Beyond These Walls is having a holiday toy drive and party. Eighty-five gifts for boys and girls ages 2-12 are needed to donate to children from the Langley Park community. Ideal gifts are new and of educational value, such as Legos or books. The gifts will be given out at a holiday party on Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 7-9:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed to plan and set up the party, wrap gifts and run games and activities at the party. Contact info@beyondthesewalls.org or arult@wam.umd.edu, or visit www.beyondthesewalls.org.

Border Crossing to Building Community

The Border Crossing to Building Community Spring 2002 Speaker Series is focused around the theme of liberation theology in an effort to engage people from across faiths, but especially those from the majority faith, in dialogue about how a liberationist reconceptualization of religion, faith and spirituality can facilitate multicultural community building.

Commencement Information for Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff should line up for the campus-wide Commencement in Room 0113 Cole Field House at 8:15 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 20. The processional begins at 8:40 a.m. Special arrangements can be made for the participation of individuals with disabilities by contacting the Office of Special Events at 5-4638.

Faculty and Staff Regalia Rental Fee Information

Five percent Maryland sales tax will be added to all cash, check and personal credit card payments. SM's and departmental credit cards will not be charged sales tax.

Bachelor Cap and Gown	\$12.80
Bachelor Hood	\$11.50
Bachelor Cap, Gown, Hood	\$24.30
Masters Cap and Gown	\$14.80
Masters Hood	\$13.50
Masters Cap, Gown, Hood	\$28.30
Doctoral Cap and Gown	\$19.30
Doctoral Hood	\$15.00
Doctoral Cap, Gown, Hood	\$34.00

Please return regalia promptly after Commencement.

Putting Our Tech Foot Forward



PHOTO BY DEBORAH WILTROUT

D.J. Patil, a researcher with IPST, talks about weather "hot spots" and other findings of the team he is working with, which is headed by math professor James Yorke and Eugenia Kalnay, chair of the Department of Meteorology. He was one of several university presenters at the state's Technology Showcase in Baltimore last week.

The Diversity Initiative's Diversity Showcase is bringing five nationally recognized liberation theologians to campus this spring. Mark your calendars for:

Bishop John S. Spong, Harvard School of Divinity—Thursday, Jan. 31

Pui Lan Kwok, Episcopal Divinity School—Tuesday, Feb. 12

Reverend James H. Cone, Union Theological Seminary—Thursday, March 7

Ada Maria Iasi-Diaz, Drew Theological School—Tuesday, April 16

Reverend Kiyul Chung, Korea Truth Commission—Thursday, May 2

Engagements will run from 4-6 p.m. in the Nyumburu Cultural Center Multipurpose Room. A book signing will immediately follow each presentation. Refreshments will be served. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Christine Clark, executive director, Office of Human Relations Programs at (301) 405-2841 or ceclark@deans.umd.edu.

Good Morning Commuters

Commuter Affairs and Community Service is currently seeking departments interested in scheduling dates to host and/or market your services and activities for the spring semester. "Good Morning, Commuters!" meets several important commuter needs. These needs include obtaining information in a convenient, timely manner; the opportunity to interact with students, faculty and staff; and feeling a connection to campus.

For more information,

contact Leslie Perkins at (301) 314-7250 or lperkins@accmail.umd.edu.

Adele's Hits the Road

During this last week of Adele's American Tours lunch specials, Adele's features foods inspired by the state of Washington. Starbucks drinks and apple crisp will be served everyday. Tuesday will feature apple and jicama salad; Wednesday is tuna basket; Thursday is Seattle shellfish stew and Friday is Northwest buffet. The dinner special of the week is grilled salmon.

Career-Building Computer Training

Do you want to enhance your computer skills for business or personal use? Many non-credit certification and career-building training courses are offered on campus during evenings and weekends. Beginning this January, LearnIT classes offered in Lefrak Hall include:

- Web Development
- Advanced Web Development
- Flash 5
- Data-based Web Applications
- A+ Hardware/A+ Software

For more information, contact the LearnIT Staff at (301) 405-1670 or learnit@oacs.umd.edu, or visit www.LearnIT.umd.edu.

LearnIT: Computer Networks

Learn the vendor-independent networking skills and concepts that affect all aspects of networking. The Network+ course covers the fundamentals of computer networking. The class also helps to prepare students for Microsoft Networking Essentials and Novell Networking Technologies exams.

Network+ will be offered on campus in January. Session

N0201 will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, plus one Saturday session (Jan. 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 19, 22 and 24).

For more information, contact the LearnIT Staff at (301) 405-1670 or learnit@oacs.umd.edu, or visit www.LearnIT.umd.edu.

Bowl Fever

Do you feel the fever? Join the Athletic Department in celebrating the football team's 2001 BCS Bowl bid and being crowned the 2001 ACC Champions. Through this Friday, Dec. 14, show your Maryland pride by wearing red or any Maryland paraphernalia and displaying promotional items in your windows and office. Be creative and spread the fever!

For more information, contact Chrystie Klar at (301) 314-5252 or mk225@umail.umd.edu, or visit www.umterps.com.

University Senate

All members of the campus community are invited to attend the University Senate Meeting scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 13 in 0200 Skinner. Please note there has been a time change to 4 p.m. The agenda includes:

- Report of the Chair
- Special Elections—Nominations Committee
- Report of Committees
- Senate Programs, Curricula, & Courses (the six proposals can be accessed at the Web site listed below)
- Senate Student Conduct Committee—Resolution to Amend the Code of Student Conduct
- Modifications to the CUSF Constitution

For more information, contact the University Senate Office at (301) 405-5805 or college-park-senate@umail.umd.edu, or visit www.inform.umd.edu/EdRes/provost/SEC.